

SENIOR SERVICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Middletown Senior Center

150 William Street

January 4, 2011

5:00 PM

1. Members Present: Councilman David Bauer, Commissioners: Ed Dypa, Annabelle Malone, Pat Jackowski, Cheryl Jackson and William Wasch

Absent: Jesse Salafia and Phyllis Pollock

Staff Present: Raymond A. Santostefano, Interim Senior Center Director, Stephan Allison, Interim Program Manager and Heidi Geores, Senior Center Staff

General Public: None

2. Meeting Called to Order: Called to order at 5:06.

3. Public Hearing: None

4. Approval of October Minutes: Motion made by Councilman Bauer and seconded by Pat Jackowski to approve Minutes of the October meeting 2010. Minutes approved with abstention from Councilman Klattenberg.

5. Approval of December Minutes: Motion was made by Councilman Bauer and seconded by Councilman Ron Klattenberg to approve amended minutes with a stipulation that there was only a quorum to schedule the new year's meetings.

Departmental Reports:

Director Raymond A. Santostefano:

- Both buses are operational
- The pool table donated to the Senior Center and examined by Heidi Geores and Stephan Allison has been delivered.
- Senior Center received a donation of 35 chairs from One McDonough Place.
- There have been numerous meetings with the architect pertaining to the St. Sebastian's School building

Program Updates – Stephan Allison

- Heidi Geores and Laura Runte initiated Friday afternoon dinners once a month. Cost is about \$2.00 per person. The participants have covered the expenses for the special dinners. Attendance is usually 40-60. There was special holiday programming between Christmas and New Years.
- Programming is going well and attendance has increased as evidenced by the Senior Center Activity Comparison Data – June through November 2009 and 2010. Councilman Bauer suggested the Commission submit Senior Center data reports and narratives to the Common Council.

Old Business

- Update on Senior Center renovations – No information to report
- Update on Senior Center Lease Agreement – No information to report
- Update on new site for Senior Center – The Common Council approved to move forward with the purchase of St. Sebastian's School. Plans are still in the conceptual phase. A Building Committee will not be appointed until Planning and Zoning commission has approved the location. Seniors are encouraged to attend Planning and Zoning Commission meeting on Wednesday, January 12, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers.

New Business:

- MAT/Red Cross Transportation – Transportation for seniors will not be interrupted. Any changes will not go into affect until approximately June 30, 2011 at which point MAT will take over from Red Cross. There will be no volunteer drivers because of union contracts. The busses will be maintained and managed from the MAT yard at 80 Pease Ave. Funds formerly given to Red Cross will now be utilized by MAT.
- Monthly break down of MAT riders - Statistics on utilization of the busses provided to the Commission.
- Homeless seniors – Commissioner Dypa raised the topic of increasing number of homeless seniors and wanted to know if the commissioners are aware of the situation and what funding and resources are available to assist the. After lengthy discussion it was determined that the Eddy Shelter and rooming houses in various sections of the city are all that are available at this point.
- Senior Center Activity Comparison Data June through November 2009 & 2010 – the outcome is that participation at the Senior Center has increased from 2009 to 2010.

Miscellaneous:

- Commissioner Dypa will be attending the “Driving and Dementia” presentation at the Glastonbury Community Center on January 6, 2011. He will be looking into bringing a speaker or program to Middletown.
- This spring/fall the City’s annual Youth Health and Safety Day will be expanded to offer information for seniors. More information to follow.

Adjournment: Councilman Bauer moved to adjourn and Commissioner Jackowski seconded. Motion unanimously approved at 6:05 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Jackson, Commissioner